



HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO

RANDY PERREIRA, Executive Director • Tel: 808.543.0011 • Fax: 808.528.0922

February 11, 2013

Mr. Wesley Lo
Regional Chief Executive Officer
Maui Memorial Medical Center
221 Mahalani Street
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

RE: BANNER HEALTH

Dear Mr. Lo:

Thank you for your letter dated December 19, 2012 to HGEA Maui Division Chief Alton Watanabe responding to the questions posed about the potential takeover of HHSC facilities by Banner Health.

Unfortunately, the lack of information in your letter has not helped to allay the fears of current employees regarding their job security as well as future pay and benefits. Additionally, you have chosen in recent public appearances to make vague statements regarding possible job security and compensation matters that have no basis, as we understand you are not a representative of Banner Health. Please be aware our concerns go beyond the well being of employees, and include the level of medical services offered to the rural communities served by HHSC that may be negatively impacted by a Banner Health takeover. Since you indicated that details to the questions we posed are not available at this time, we respectfully decline your offer, and will arrange a meeting with Banner through its authorized representative, Robert Toyo fuku.

Please be mindful that HGEA supports improvements in health care and medical services that are offered to the people in our communities. We do not believe, however, this should come at the expense of employees who have worked so hard and tirelessly for the HHSC system. Further, this endeavor to privatize HHSC operations should not be done at the expense of the communities HHSC serves where unprofitable medical services may be cut. Hawaii has a long tradition of providing quality health care services to the neighbor islands and rural communities, and we endeavor to continue to allow our rural residents access to sufficient care as provided in our State Constitution.

Unless and until the concerns we have raised are addressed directly by Banner Health, we will maintain our opposition to this lease acquisition as it would appear to have adverse impact on the employees we represent, and presents no tangible benefit to Hawaii taxpayers.

Sincerely,

Randy Perreira
Executive Director